

# OUR SCHOOLS NOW!

OUR KIDS' FUTURE

April 16, 2018

The Honorable Spencer J. Cox  
Utah Lt. Governor's Office  
Utah State Capitol Building, Suite 220  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

RE: Withdrawal of the Our Schools Now citizens' initiative petition

Dear Lt. Governor Cox:

After many years of advocacy and having collected more than 150,000 signatures from concerned Utahns seeking higher-quality education in our state, we are proud to have reached a solution during the 2018 legislative session to significantly increase funding for education.

The agreement between Our Schools Now, the Utah Legislature and Governor Herbert includes:

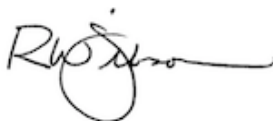
- A commitment to work together to significantly increase per-student spending over the next 5 years;
- Creation of the Teacher and Student Success Account as described in the Our Schools Now ballot initiative, which allocates funding to local schools for use inside the classroom, with school improvement plans created at the school level and approved by the local education agencies (LEA);
- An ongoing deposit into the Account equivalent in value to 1.5% WPU (\$47m in FY19);
- Indexing of the state basic rate and depositing the additional revenue into the Account;
- Establishing a floor for the state basic rate for 5 years (as per HB293) and distributing the additional revenue to equalize school funding between LEAs;
- Placing, and jointly advocating for, a question on the November 2018 ballot for voters to decide on increasing the state gasoline tax by 10 cents per gallon – 56 percent distributed to public education (via the Account), 14 percent to higher education (via Performance Funding) and 30 percent to Class B and Class C Roads (per state law);
- If approved by the voters, a commitment that the Utah Legislature will enact the 10-cent gasoline tax increase as soon as possible following the election.

In return, we agree to stop pursuing the Our Schools Now *Teacher and Student Success Act*, and will discontinue all signature gathering efforts. We will continue to advocate for critical investments in education, including support of the ballot question this November.

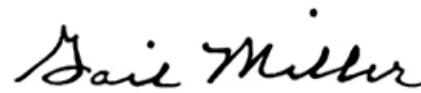
Sincerely,



Scott Anderson  
Co-Chair



Ron Jibson  
Co-Chair



Gail Miller  
Co-Chair